

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 L-03
IO-13 ACDA-12 COME-00 INT-05 TRSE-00 NSF-01
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06
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P R 170459Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2452
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY ANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: XV, EFIS, AS, US
SUBJ: ANTARCTIC TREATY - FIFTH PREPARATORY MEETING FOR SPECIAL
CONSULTATIVE MEETING - MARINE LIVING RESOURCES

REF: (A) STATE 040407(NOTAL), (B) CANBERRA 1028 (C) STATE
38948(NOTAL).

1. FIFTH PREPARATORY MEETING FOR ANTARCTIC SPECIAL
CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON MARINE LIVING RESOURCES TOOK
PLACE AT DFA ON MORNING OF FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, WITH
MCKEOWN IN CHAIR.

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2. WYNDHAM ANNOUNCED THAT OPENING CEREMONY WOULD TAKE
PLACE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE AT 11:00 A.M. MONDAY, FEBRUARY
27. REGISTRATION OF DELEGATES WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE
ACADEMY OF SCIENCE FROM 9:45 - 10:45 A.M. ON MONDAY,
FEBRUARY 27. WYNDHAM SAID THAT IN VIEW OF RECENT
BOMB INCIDENT AT COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT

MEETING IN SYDNEY, EACH DELEGATE WOULD BE ISSUED WITH A PERSONALIZED IDENTIFICATION CARD AND THAT ONLY DELEGATES AND MEMBERS OF SECRETARIAT WOULD BE ALLOWED INTO BUILDING AT TIMES OTHER THAN OPENING SESSION. IN ORDER TO AVOID FUTURE EMBARRASSMENT, HE URGED ALL DELEGATES TO REGISTER AT DESIGNATED TIME.

3. WYNDHAM SAID THAT HE HAS ALREADY HAD SIGNS INDICATING CONSIDERABLE PRESS INTEREST IN MEETING AND THAT ABC TV PROGRAM "FOUR CORNERS" WOULD BE FILMING OPENING SESSION.

4. RELATIONS WITH PRESS: WYNDHAM ANNOUNCED THAT CHAIRMAN OF MEETING WOULD BE READING A STATEMENT CONCERNING RELATIONS WITH THE PRESS EARLY IN THE FORMAL SESSION. HE THEN SUMMARIZED PROPOSED STATEMENT, TEXT OF WHICH HAD BEEN SHOWN TO US REP PRIOR TO MEETING AND WHICH FOLLOWS:

"PROPOSED STATEMENT BY CHAIRMAN ON BRIEFING THE MEDIA

DELEGATIONS WILL RECALL THAT AT PREVIOUS CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS, IT HAS BEEN THE ESTABLISHED PRACTICE THAT EITHER THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MEETING OR THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE MEETING SHOULD BRIEF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA CONCERNING DEVELOPMENTS AT THE MEETING. I
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PROPOSE TO CONTINUE THIS PRACTICE AND TO GIVE AN ASSURANCE THAT ANY SUCH BRIEFINGS WILL NATURALLY RESPECT THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. AT THE SAME TIME THESE ARRANGEMENTS ARE NOT INTENDED TO PREVENT INDIVIDUAL DELEGATIONS FROM EXPLAINING THEIR GOVERNMENT POSITIONS TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA."

5. BEFORE MEETING U.S. REP GAVE PROPOSED CHANGES TO DFA MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION TO MCKEOWN AND WYNDHAM, WHO ACCEPTED THEM WITHOUT DIFFICULTY.

6. WYNDHAM ANNOUNCED THAT CHAIRMAN WOULD PROPOSE FOLLOWING WORKING HOURS TO MEETING 1000-1300 AND 1500-1800, WITH BREAKS AT 1130 AND 1630. HE ADDED THAT ALTHOUGH MONDAY, MARCH 13 IS A LOCAL HOLIDAY, IT IS PROPOSED TO WORK ANYWAY.

7. RULES OF PROCEDURE: MCKEOWN ANNOUNCED THAT AT AN EARLY POINT IN THE SESSION THE CHAIRMAN WOULD ANNOUNCE THAT HE WOULD ASSUME THAT THE NORMAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING RULES OF PROCEDURE WOULD APPLY TO THE SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING.

8. DRAFT AGENDA

A. OPENING STATEMENTS - MCKEOWN ANNOUNCED THAT A NUMBER OF REPS HAD APPROACHED HIM TO STATE THAT THEIR CHIEF DELEGATES WOULD LIKE TO MAKE OPENING STATEMENTS (EMBASSY REP HAD PREVIOUSLY GIVEN HIM IDEA OF CURRENT U.S. FEELING AS OUTLINED IN PARA 2 OF REFTEL A). AS A RESULT OF A GENERALLY FAVORABLE DISCUSSION, IT WAS DECIDED TO INCLUDE A NEW AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 "OPENING STATEMENTS" IMMEDIATELY AFTER "ELECTION OF OFFICERS" AND TO RENUMBER THE OTHER ITEMS ACCORDINGLY.

B. MCKEOWN COMPROMISE PROPOSAL FOR AGENDA ITEMS 4 AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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5 (NOW 5 AND 6). CHILE AND FRANCE BOTH ANNOUNCED THAT THEY WOULD ACCEPT KCKEOWN'S COMPROMISE AS OUTLINED IN PARA 5 OF REFTEL B. EVEN BEFORE EVERY ONE PRESENT HAD HAD OPPORTUNITY TO HEAVE A SIGH OF RELIEF, SOVIET REP, PAVLOV, SAID THAT WHILE MOSCOW STILL PREFERRED ORITINAL USSR/US DRAFT, HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED ACCEPT MCKEOWN COMPROMISE BUT TO QUESTION USE OF WORD "ALL" WITH REFERENCE TO RECOMMENDATION IX-2, AS IN REALITY ONLY SECTION 3 WAS GERMAINE. U.S. REP SAID THAT WHILE SOVIET REP MIGHT HAVE A CERTAIN POINT, HE DID NOT BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO CAUSE ANOTHER REFERRAL TO CAPITALS (WHICH GHILEAN REP - CLEARLY JUNDER TIGHT REIN - IMMEDIATELY SAID HE WOULD BE FORCED TO DO). FRENCH REP PROPOSED LEAVING IN WORD "ALL" IN ITEMS 4 AND 5 (NOW 5 AND 6) BUT ADDING THE FOLLOWING AFTER WORD RECOMMENDATION IX-2 "COMA SECTION 3". CHILEAN REP SAID THAT OF COURSE HE WOULD HAVE TO REFER TO SANTIAGO BUT PROMISED TO SEND CABLE SAME DAY. IT WAS LEFT THAT KCKEOWN AND WYNDHAM WOULD CONSIDER ADDITION OF WORD "SECTION 3" IN PARAS 4 AND 5 (NOW 5 AND 6) WAS ACCEPTABLE TO ALL CONCERNED UNLESS HE HEARD TO CONTRARY. SOVIET REP THEN STATED THAT IN EVENT CHILEAN OR OTHER REPS UNABLE ACCEPT ADDITION "SECTION 3," THEN HE PREPARED ACCEPT ORIGINAL KMCEOWN COMPROMISE.

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ACDA-12 COME-00 INT-05 TRSE-00 NSF-01 CIAE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2453
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
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9. DECISIVE MEETING: MCKEOWN POINTED OUT THAT WHILE
SOME DELEGATIONS WERE KNOWN TO WANT CANBERRA MEETING TO
BE ONLY MEETING, RECOMMENDATION IX-2 CALLED FOR A FUTURE
"DECISIVE MEETING" AND HE URGED REPS TO IMPRESS ON
THEIR DELEGATIONS IMPORTANCE OF COMING TO CANBERRA SUFFICIENTLY
INSTRUCTED TO BE IN A POSITION TO DECIDE ON THIS MATTER
DURING COURSE OF SCM

10. RE OPENING STATEMENTS - KCKEOWN STRESSED THAT IN
LINE WITH NORMAL PRACTICE AT REGULAR CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS
THESE STATEMENTS SHOULD BE BRIEF (NOT MORE THAN FIVE
MINUTES). WYNDHAM MADE AN APPEAL FOR THE TEXTS OF SUCH
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STATEMENTS A.S.A.P. HE ADDED THAT IN ANY EVENT, HE
MUST BE PROVIDED WITH TEN COPIES OF EACH OPENING STATEMENT
PRIOR TO BEGINNING OF OPENING CEREMONIES IN ORDER THAT
THEY MAY BE GIVEN TO INTERPRETERS AND TRANSLATORS.
STATEMENTS WILL BE MADE PART OF OFFICIAL RECORDS OF MEETING.

11. SUBSTANTIVE PROPOSALS: KCKEOWN ANNOUNCED THAT THERE
ARE NOW SIX DRAFT CONVENTIONS AS FOLLOWS: AUSTRALIA,
SOUTH AFRICA, ARGENTINA, U.S.S.R., AND JAPAN (TABLED AT
MEETING AND TEXT BEING SENT VIA SEPTTEL TO DEPARTMENT AND

LONDON - FOR HEAP OF FCO). KCKEOWN ASKED REPS URGE THEIR
CAPTIALS SEND ANY NEW DRAFTS A.S.A.P. HE ALSO ASKED REPS
TO ASCERTAIN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER WHETHER CAPITALS PROPOSED
SUBMIT DRAFTS. DOES DEPARTMENT SO PROPOSE?

12. RE LAKESIDE HOTEL FOR AMBASSADOR BREWSTER, EMBASSY
APPROACHED TOP MANAGEMENT OF LAKESIDE RE POSSIBILITY OF
FREEING AT LEAST ONE ROOM FOR DURATION OF CONFERENCE.
MANAGER REITERATED THAT AS HOTEL WAS ALREADY
OVERBOOKED DURING THREE PERIODS BETWEEN FEBRUARY 27 AND MARCH 16,
IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE MAKE EVEN ONE ROOM AVAILABLE.
EMBASSY DOES CONSIDERABLE BUSINESS WITH LAKESIDE, AND
HAD THERE BEEN ANY POSSIBILITY AT ALL OBTAIN RESERVATION,
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN DONE. WE HAVE ALSO AGAIN APPROACHED
MANAGERS OF CANBERRA REX AND PARK ROYAL WITH SIMILAR
NEGATIVE RESULTS. RESERVATIONS FOR AMBASSADOR BREWSTER
AND REST OF DELEGATION THUS CONFIRMED FOR

NOAH'S TOWN HOUSE MOTEL.

13. SECRETARY GENERAL HAS AGAIN MADE URGENT PLEA FOR
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NAMES AND TITLES OF ALL MEMBERS OF U.S. DEL, IN ORDER
THAT HE MAY BEGIN PREPARATION OF IDENTIFICATION CARDS.
ALSTON

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Message Attributes

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